

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ACANTHIZA
(*A. tenuirostris*).

By A. ZIETZ, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S., Assistant-Director of the
S.A. Museum.

[Read November 6, 1900.]

This new species is nearest allied to *Acanthiza reguloides*. Its more diminutive size, its feeble bill, the different shade of the rump feathers, and the absence of the bright rufous colouring of the basal third of the tail feathers, distinguish it from *Acanthiza reguloides*, which, according to Gould, is a fairly common species about Adelaide.

Two specimens have been collected by R. M. Hawker, Esq., at Leigh Creek, in August, 1895.

I propose for this new species the name *Acanthiza tenuirostris* (the small-billed Tit).

With the general characters of *A. (Geobasileus) reguloides*. Upper surface of a more greyish tinge instead of olive brown. The feathers on the forehead are much darker and broadly margined with white. Upper tail coverts of a yellowish white tinge; in *A. reguloides* they are ochreous. Under surface whitish and slightly tinged with yellow. Throat and chest still paler, each feather with a very slight broken margin of brown. Base of tail only with a faint, just perceptible, rufous tinge. The external margin of the centre tail feathers, and the tips of all greyish. Upper tail coverts whitish, slightly shaded with fawn.

For comparison I give the measurements of *A. reguloides* from the hills east of Adelaide, together with those of the new bird.

	<i>A. tenuirostris.</i>	<i>A. reguloides.</i>
Total length ...	3.5 inches	4 inches
Length of wing ...	1.9 "	2 "
Length of culmen...	.3 "	.4 "
Height of bill1 "	.12 "